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ABSTRACT

A survey of graduate school enrollments provided responses from 309 of the 359 member schools of the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States. Data are provided on 1976 and 1977 enrollments and percent changes in enrollments by discipline area, first-time enrollment, male and female enrollment, and ethnic group enrollment. Percent changes from 1976 to 1977 are provided on service-oriented research assistantships by discipline area, service-oriented teaching assistantships, and non-service-oriented fellowships. Percent changes are provided on master's degrees and doctoral degrees awarded by discipline area and on full-time and part-time, first-time enrollment. Overall enrollment increases are apparently occurring in all discipline areas when all institutions are looked at as a single group; only education and humanities are showing decreases across nearly all institutional types. Although the number of women enrolled in Ph.D.-highest institutions continues to increase, women still enroll in smaller numbers than do men. The decline of fellowship support continues, but there have been small increases in the number of teaching assistantships and research assistantships in all discipline areas. The total number of master's degrees awarded shows a slight decrease in the areas of education, humanities, and engineering, while the number of Ph.D.'s awarded decreased in all areas. (SW)

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# Report on the Council of Graduate Schools-Graduate Record Examinations Board 1977-78 Survey of Graduate Enrollment*

-Part II-

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## Introduction

The GRE Board and the Council of Graduate Schools began five years ago to conduct an annual series of surveys of enrollment of the membership of the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States. The Council membership consists of some 359 graduate institutions who grant either the master's or doctorate as the highest degree. The members of the Council grant 99% of the earned doctorates and 85% of the master's degrees awarded.

This year's survey, like last year's, was divided into two sections, the first of which was distributed in the early fall of 1977 and reported at the CGS meeting in December. Questionnaires for Part II were distributed early in 1978, with data requested on enrollment as of mid-October for 1976 and 1977. Even given the postponement of several questions until the second questionnaire, a number of institutions were not able to report data on all questions asked or for both years.

## Sample Description

Survey questionnaires were sent to 359 graduate schools who were members of CGS as of December 15, 1977. A total of 309 questionnaires were returned, for a response rate of 86%. Since the primary purpose of the questionnaire was to develop comparative data between 1976 and 1977, responses to questions were included in the analysis only when data were supplied for both years; unlike some earlier surveys, however, results have been reported for all questions, even where the effective response rate (percent of the number responding of the number available in the total

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group) did not reach 50%. These data are being reported in the belief that incomplete data, if appropriately used, are of more value than no data at all; yet, extreme caution must be exercised in interpreting data based on response rates of less than 50%. These data will present an accurate picture of those institutions which reported data, but cannot be easily extrapolated to project trends for all institutions.

In addition, the variability of response rates across questions reduces the ability to compare results across questions or to compare results of Part II of this year's survey with the earlier Part I. The number of institutions responding to Part I (304) and Part II (309) is different and although response rates for several questions in Part II are above 85%, the specific institutions responding to Part II are not always identical to those which responded to Part I and the specific institutions which comprise an 85% response rate for one question on Part II may not be identical to those institutions which comprise an 85% response rate for a different question. These same limitations hinder comparisons between this year's Part II data and that reported last year, as does the fact that many institutions noted that the data for 1976 which they were able to provide for this year's survey were different from, and better than, the 1976 data which they provided last year.

Despite these limitations, the overall obtained sample (i.e., those submitting usable questionnaires on time) appears to be representative of the total CGS population. Below are comparisons of number and percentages of several ways of describing the available population and sample. It should be noted that "Master's Highest Degree" refers, throughout this report, only to those institutions for which the master's degree is, in fact, the highest degree awarded. Data for these institutions do not reflect master's degrees offered by institutions which also offer the doctorate.

Comparisons of Usable Sample and Base Population

| | CGS Institutions | | Usable Survey Sample | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | % (sample of each population subgroup |
| Total Institutions | | | | | |
| Public | 242 | 67% | 208 | 67% | 86% |
| Private | 117 | 33% | 101 | 33% | 86% |
| Total | 359 | 100% | 309 | 100% | 86% |
| Master's Highest Degree | | | | | |
| Public | 82 | 23% | 66 | 21% | 80% |
| Private | 27 | 7% | 25 | 8% | 93% |
| Sub-Total | 109 | 30% | 91 | 29% | 83% |
| Ph.D. Highest Degree | | | | | |
| Public | 160 | 45% | 142 | 46% | 89% |
| Private | 90 | 25% | 76 | 25% | 84% |
| Sub-Total | 250 | 70% | 218 | 71% | 87% |

## Results

Some of the results of the survey are displayed in Tables 1 through 12; other results, which lend themselves less well to tabular presentation, are presented in the discussion section below. Two types of tables are presented.

Tables 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 report percent change between 1976 and 1977 by discipline area. Each of these tables shows both the percent change between the years in question and the effective response rate (in parenthesis) for that type of institution and discipline area. In addition, Tables 1 and 2 show the actual 1977 enrollments on which the percent changes have been computed.

Discipline areas, as defined in the original questionnaire, include education (all fields of education), humanities (English and journalism, fine and applied arts, foreign languages and literature, library science, philosophy, and religion), social sciences (anthropology, business, economics, geography, history, political science, and sociology), physical sciences (chemistry, computer sciences, geology, mathematics, physics, and statistics), engineering (all fields of engineering), and biological sciences (agriculture, biology, health professions, home economics, psychology, and zoology).

Tables 3, 4, and 12 present the number of respondents with usable data to the question (i.e., data for both years and for all parts of the question), the percentage that number represents of the total group or of the subgroup, the total number of students reported each year and the percentage change from 1976 to 1977.

Finally, all data were summarized by size of the responding graduate school, although these summaries do not appear in the tables presented. Size categories are based on quartile ranges by institutional type drawn from Part I of this year's survey; due to changing enrollment patters and the addition of new CGS members since the quartile size ranges were set, these size categories are different from those used prior to this year. By virtue of these changes, however, each size category--ranging from "1" for the smallest institutions to "4" for the largest institutions--will still contain approximately 25% of all institutions of one type. Size categories used in this report, by institutional type, are shown below; results based on these size categories are noted in the following discussion, where appropriate.

Total Graduate School Enrollment for Size Categories, by Institutional Type

(Each size category contains approximately 25% of all institutions of that institutional type)

| | (smallest) Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 | (largest) Category 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public-Master's Highest Degree | 0-900 | 901-1400 | 1401-2500 | over 2500 |
| Private-Master's Highest Degree | 0-250 | 251-600 | 601-900 | over 900 |
| Public-Ph.D. Highest Degree | 0-1200 | 1201-2600 | 2601-4100 | over 4100 |
| Private-Ph.D. Highest Degree | 0-800 | 801-1400 | 1401-2300 | over 2300 |

Discussion

A review of Table 1 shows a moderate increase in total graduate school enrollment in four of the six discipline areas. The areas of Education and Humanities continue to decline, but at a slower rate than recent years. Although our average total response rate is close to 80%, special care should be taken not to draw improper conclusions. Looked at in total, the Biological Sciences show the largest increase over last year--3.7%. But in fact, these enrollments have declined at all master's institutions. Examined from another perspective, the private master's institutions have experienced the largest enrollment decrease (Biological Sciences), but had the biggest growth of all institutions in the area of Social Sciences.

When the data are reviewed by size of institution (not shown in the tables), several other interesting patterns emerge. First, decreases in total graduate school enrollment occurred across all but one size category (public Ph.D. category 2), for Humanities. The enrollment at the smallest private master's institutions (category 1) declined in all areas except Physical Science. No consistent pattern was apparent at the Ph.D. institutions.

First-time graduate enrollment, displayed in Table 2, shows some interesting changes. In all but one discipline area, Education (+2.3%), the public master's institutions showed negative changes, while the private master's institutions only showed an increase in Engineering (28.6%). Private Ph.D. institutions had their largest gain, and the largest gain overall, 13.8% in the Social Sciences area. At the public master's there is a continued decline in Engineering (20.2%). At all master's institutions, both public and private, there are declines in all disciplines ranging from 4.1% in the Social Sciences to 17.0% in Engineering. Enrollments in the Humanities are down for all Ph.D. institutions by slightly more than 2%. Looking at totals, modest increases have occurred in all the sciences with the exception of Biological Sciences where the decrease was a slight 2.5%. Decreases were also noted in Education (1.8%) and Humanities (2.9%).

TABLE 1

Total Graduate School Enrollment, by Discipline Area: 1977 Enrollment, Percent Change from 1976, and Response Rate

| | Education | Humanities | Social Sciences | Physical Sciences | Engineering | Biological Sciences |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public-Master's Highest | 51,436<br>-5.3%<br>(76%) | 10,666<br>-8.5%<br>(73%) | 23,983<br>+0.6%<br>(76%) | 3,788<br>+3.0%<br>(73%) | 2,775<br>+2.3%<br>(62%) | 10,134<br>-0.7%<br>(74%) |
| Private-Master's Highest | 9,162<br>-7.5%<br>(93%) | 1,479<br>-6.4%<br>(93%) | 10,082<br>+8.7%<br>(93%) | 569<br>-1.2%<br>(89%) | 199<br>+6.4%<br>(63%) | 1,877<br>-11.0%<br>(89%) |
| Public-Ph.D. Highest | 114,889<br>-0.7%<br>([illegible]) | 49,857<br>-3.7%<br>(81%) | 87,155<br>+2.8%<br>(84%) | 35,746<br>+1.6%<br>(84%) | 31,719<br>+1.4%<br>(77%) | 68,546<br>+4.8%<br>(85%) |
| Private-Ph.D. Highest | 20,115<br>-3.7%<br>(70%) | 18,773<br>+4.7%<br>(80%) | 41,353<br>+3.8%<br>(81%) | 11,616<br>-5.1%<br>(82%) | 15,573<br>+4.9%<br>(71%) | 15,872<br>+3.8%<br>(79%) |
| Master's Highest | 60,598<br>-5.6%<br>(80%) | 12,145<br>-8.3%<br>(78%) | 34,065<br>+2.9%<br>(80%) | 4,357<br>+2.5%<br>(77%) | 2,974<br>+2.6%<br>(62%) | 12,011<br>-2.5%<br>(78%) |
| Ph.D. Highest | 35,004<br>-1.2%<br>(78%) | 68,630<br>-3.9%<br>(81%) | 128,508<br>+3.1%<br>(83%) | 47,362<br>-0.1%<br>(84%) | 47,292<br>+2.6%<br>(75%) | 84,418<br>+4.6%<br>(83%) |
| Public-Master's & Ph.D. | 166,325<br>-2.2%<br>(80%) | 60,523<br>-4.6%<br>(79%) | 111,138<br>+2.3%<br>(81%) | 39,534<br>+1.7%<br>(81%) | 34,494<br>+1.5%<br>(72%) | 78,680<br>+4.1%<br>(81%) |
| Private-Master's & Ph.D. | 29,277<br>-4.9%<br>(75%) | 20,252<br>-4.8%<br>(83%) | 51,435<br>+4.7%<br>(84%) | 12,185<br>-4.9%<br>(84%) | 15,772<br>+4.9%<br>(69%) | 17,749<br>+2.0%<br>(81%) |
| Total | 195,602<br>-2.6%<br>(79%) | 80,775<br>-4.6%<br>(80%) | 162,573<br>+3.0%<br>(82%) | 51,719<br>+0.1%<br>(82%) | 50,266<br>+2.6%<br>(71%) | 96,429<br>+3.7%<br>(81%) |

TABLE 2

First-time Graduate School Enrollment, by Discipline Area: 1977 Enrollment, Percent Change from 1976, and Response Rate

| | Education | Humanities | Social Sciences | Physical Sciences | Engineering | Biological Sciences |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public-Master's Highest | 8,586<br>+2.3%<br>(57%) | 1,919<br>-3.9%<br>(54%) | 4,032<br>0.0%<br>(54%) | 629<br>-2.6%<br>(50%) | 632<br>-20.2%<br>(46%) | 1,851<br>-0.8%<br>(54%) |
| Private-Master's Highest | 2,413<br>-28.8%<br>(85%) | 501<br>-11.3%<br>(85%) | 3,003<br>-9.1%<br>(85%) | 208<br>-2.8%<br>(85%) | 72<br>+28.6%<br>(59%) | 532<br>-28.9%<br>(78%) |
| Public-Ph.D. Highest | 20,186<br>+0.8%<br>(70%) | 12,534<br>-2.6%<br>(70%) | 21,366<br>+6.7%<br>(77%) | 9,066<br>+7.2%<br>(74%) | 8,438<br>+4.7%<br>(69%) | 16,281<br>-2.7%<br>(74%) |
| Private-Ph.D. Highest | 3,910<br>-1.1%<br>(63%) | 5,295<br>-2.2%<br>(76%) | 11,442<br>+13.8%<br>(73%) | 3,051<br>+2.0%<br>(79%) | 4,704<br>+2.1%<br>(69%) | 3,970<br>+2.5%<br>(74%) |
| Master's Highest | 10,999<br>-6.6%<br>(64%) | 2,420<br>-5.5%<br>(61%) | 7,035<br>-4.1%<br>(61%) | 837<br>-2.7%<br>(59%) | 704<br>-17.0%<br>(50%) | 2,383<br>-8.8%<br>(60%) |
| Ph.D. Highest | 24,096<br>+0.5%<br>(67%) | 17,829<br>-2.5%<br>(72%) | 32,808<br>+9.1%<br>(74%) | 12,117<br>+5.8%<br>(76%) | 13,142<br>+3.8%<br>(69%) | 20,251<br>-1.8%<br>(74%) |
| Public-Master's & Ph.D. | 28,772<br>+1.3%<br>(66%) | 14,869<br>-2.8%<br>(64%) | 25,398<br>+5.6%<br>(66%) | 9,695<br>+6.5%<br>(66%) | 9,070<br>+2.5%<br>(61%) | 18,132<br>-2.5%<br>(67%) |
| Private-Master's & Ph.D. | 6,323<br>-13.9%<br>(68%) | 5,796<br>-3.1%<br>(78%) | 14,445<br>+8.2%<br>(79%) | 3,259<br>+1.7%<br>(80%) | 4,776<br>+2.4%<br>(67%) | 4,502<br>-2.6%<br>(75%) |
| Total | 35,095<br>-1.8%<br>(67%) | 20,249<br>-2.9%<br>(69%) | 39,843<br>+6.5%<br>(70%) | 12,954<br>+5.2%<br>(70%) | 13,846<br>+2.5%<br>(63%) | 22,634<br>-2.5%<br>(70%) |

Reviewing the data by institutional size shows an interesting pattern at the Private master's institutions. Institutions that are size category 2 and 3 are showing declines across all disciplines except for category 3 in the Social sciences (+5.7%).

Table 3 shows the number and proportion of men and women enrolled for full-time graduate study. The proportion of women enrolled in full-time graduate study increased for master's highest institutions (from 52% to 53%) and at Ph.D. institutions (from 42% to 43%). The proportion of women enrolled at Ph.D. highest institutions still remain below the proportion of women enrolled at master's highest institutions where women are in the majority. It should be noted that the absolute number of women enrolled at Ph.D. highest institutions remains well above the number of women enrolled at master's highest institutions. Looked at by size of institution, the proportion of women enrolled for full-time graduate study remained stable or increased slightly in all but category 2 of the Private master's highest institutions where a 1% decrease was experienced.

Table 4 displays a similar growth pattern with respect to first-time enrollment of women. Men, however, showed slight first-time enrollment decreases at the Ph.D. level. In 1977 male enrollment was 56% compared to 57% in 1976. This is also reflected in the size categories of the Private Ph.D. where male enrollment has decreased in all categories by an average of 2%.

The number of non-United States nationals enrolled at responding institutions, not shown in the Tables, increased between 1976 and 1977 by an average of 3.4%. Private master's highest institutions showed a loss of 8.6% (with an effective response rate of 78%). Public master's highest increased by 14.7% (effective response rate 57%). A slight positive change was observed at the public (+4.4%) and private (+0.8%) Ph.D. institutions. (The response rates were 72% and 78%, respectively.)

TABLE 3

Male and Female Total Enrollment, 1976 and 1977

| | | | 1976 | | | | 1977 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number* | % | Men | % | Women | % | Men | % | Women | % |
| Master's Highest | 88 | 81 | 75,120 | 48 | 81,316 | 52 | 73,747 | 47 | 82,770 | 53 |
| Ph.D. Highest | 207 | 83 | 309,646 | 58 | 219,773 | 42 | 304,264 | 57 | 225,755 | 43 |
| Total | 295 | 82 | 384,766 | 56 | 301,089 | 44 | 378,011 | 55 | 308,525 | 45 |

TABLE 4

Male and Female First-time Enrollment, 1976 and 1977

| | | | 1976 | | | | 1977 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number* | % | Men | % | Women | % | Men | % | Women | % |
| Master's Highest | 74 | 68 | 17,549 | 50 | 17,897 | 50 | 16,738 | 48 | 17,959 | 52 |
| Ph.D. Highest | 194 | 78 | 76,172 | 57 | 57,005 | 43 | 74,870 | 56 | 57,979 | 44 |
| Total | 268 | 75 | 93,721 | 56 | 74,902 | 44 | 91,608 | 55 | 75,938 | 45 |

*Number is institutions responding. Percentage figures are the number responding as a percent of the number available in the total group. For example, 88 Master's Highest Degree institutions responded out of a possible 109 such institutions in the CGS membership for a 81% response rate for that group of institutions.

Table 5 shows the percent change in total graduate enrollment by ethnic group and Table 6 shows the percent change in first-time graduate enrollment by ethnic group. Because many of the response rates, shown in parentheses. are well below 50%, caution should be used in interpreting much of these data. Nonetheless, it can be noted that both first-time and total enrollment of Chicano students increased in all types of institutions between 1976 and 1977. For Blacks increases were noted in the total enrollment at master's highest institutions (+1.7%) and first-time enrollment at Ph.D. highest institutions (.3%). In general, the numerical shifts are so small in absolute values that we cannot draw any major conclusions other than the fact that no significant shifts are occurring in the enrollment of ethnic groups in graduate studies.

As in prior surveys, institutions were asked to provide data concerning numbers of teaching assistantships (Table 7) and research assistants (Table 8). As can be seen from Table 7, which displays the percent change in graduate teaching assistants for Ph.D. institutions, there are small increases in the total number of teaching assistantships in all disciplines. The only decrease at the Public Ph.D. institutions occurred in the area of Humanities (.7%). The Private institutions showed two declines--Education (9.2%) and Physical Science (0.1%). As was true last year, for both public and private Ph.D. highest institutions, increases occurred across all size categories in Engineering. In Social Science increases occurred in all but size category 3.

Table 8 displays the percent change in the number of research assistantships at Ph.D. highest institutions between 1976 and 1977; like teaching assistantships, the number of research assistantships also increased in every discipline. The research assistantships at private Ph.D. highest institutions decreased in education (13.8%), Humanities (21.6%) and Physical Science (0.7%). Increases ranging from 7.2% in Biological Science to 20.0% in Education were experienced at the Public institutions. In Education, decreases occurred across all size categories of the private Ph.D. highest institutions. On the other hand, increases occurred across all size categories of the Public Ph.D. highest institutions in the Humanities area.

TABLE 5

Percent Change in Total Graduate School Enrollment, by Ethnic Group, 1976-1977

| | Black | Chicano | Puerto Rican | American Indian | Other Minority | Non-Minority |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Master's Highest | +1.7% (62%) | +15.2% (50%) | +3.7% (44%) | -0.2% (57%) | -0.5% (59%) | +2.5% (60%) |
| Ph.D. Highest | -2.4% (68%) | +1.1% (58%) | -24.0% (43%) | -3.4% (61%) | +2.4% (61%) | +0.9% (64%) |
| Total | -1.1% (66%) | +5.1% (55%) | -19.1% (43%) | -3.0% (60%) | +1.9% (60%) | +1.2% (62%) |

TABLE 6

Percent Change in First-time Graduate School Enrollment, by Ethnic Group, 1976-1977*

| | Black | Chicano | Puerto Rican | American Indian | Other Minority | Non-Minority |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Master's Highest | -4.3% (36%) | +8.4% (30%) | -28.6% (27%) | -7.4% (31%) | +7.1% (35%) | -8.4% (35%) |
| Ph.D. Highest | +0.3% (48%) | +8.1% (42%) | -41.3% (32%) | -14.7% (42%) | +15.9% (42%) | +3.9% (46%) |
| Total | -1.2% (44%) | +8.1% (38%) | -41.0% (30%) | -13.7% (39%) | +14.7% (40%) | +2.1% (43%) |

*Data based on response rate, shown in parenthesis, of less than 50% should be interpreted with extreme care.

TABLE 7

Percent Change in Graduate Teaching Assistants (Service Required) on Appointment, by Discipline Area, 1976-77

| | Education | Humanities | Social Sciences | Physical Sciences | Engineering | Biological Sciences |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Private-Ph.D. | -9.2% (64%) | +8.6% (74%) | +8.3% (72%) | -0.1% (76%) | +4.4% (66%) | +2.8% (72%) |
| Public-Ph.D. | +9.9% (75%) | -0.7% (78%) | +4.0% (78%) | +1.9% (78%) | +5.0% (72%) | +4.7% (79%) |
| All Ph.D. | +8.3% (71%) | +0.9% (76%) | +4.8% (76%) | +1.5% (77%) | +4.9% (70%) | +4.5% (76%) |



TABLE 8

Percent Change in Research Assistants (Service Required) on Appointment, by Discipline Area, 1976-77

| | Education | Humanities | Social Sciences | Physical Sciences | Engineering | Biological Sciences |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Private-Ph.D. | -13.8% (57%) | -21.6% (61%) | +7.4% (63%) | -0.7% (68%) | +6.4% (61%) | +5.2% (61%) |
| Public-Ph.D. | +20.0% (68%) | +12.5% (67%) | +15.0% (68%) | +12.4% (68%) | +15.5% (66%) | +7.2% (71%) |
| All Ph.D. | +13.9% (64%) | +0.7% (65%) | +13.2% (66%) | +8.4% (68%) | +12.6% (64%) | +7.0% (68%) |

Changes in the number of fellowships or traineeships at Ph.D. highest institutions are shown in Table 9: the total number of fellowships decreased in all discipline areas except Humanities (+3.8%) and Engineering (+0.2%). In all disciplines, decreases were experienced in category 4 of the Public Ph.D. highest institutions; and at the smallest (category 1) Private Ph.D. highest institutions.

Table 10 displays the percent change in master's degrees awarded between 1976 and 1977 by discipline areas. In all areas except Physical Science there is a similar trend (increase or decrease) at both the Public and Private institutions. In the Physical Sciences area, at the public institutions master's degrees awarded are up 5% and down 3.2% at the Private institutions. Looking at the institution by size category within the Social Sciences discipline, there is a growth in all but category 1 of the Private master's highest institution where a 34.1% decrease was experienced.

The number of Ph.D.'s awarded shown in Table 11 decreased in all disciplines. This trend holds true for the Public and Private institutions individually with the single exception occurring at the Private Ph.D. institutions in Education (+4.2%). The number of doctorate degrees decreased at the smallest (category 1) Private Ph.D. highest institutions, except in the discipline of Education, where the increase was 13.8%. No other consistent patterns emerged.

The proportion of first-time enrollment classified as part-time, displayed in Table 12, remained the same (institutions were asked to apply their own definition of full and part-time). When institutions were classified as "Public" or "Private" without regard to highest degree offered, the proportion of first-time enrollment classified as part-time for public institutions fell from 51% to 50%, while the proportion of first-time enrollment classified as part-time for Private institutions remained at 53%. When institutions were classified by highest degree offered, as is shown in Table 12, no significant differences appeared.

Finally, the survey included questions concerning the Doctor of Arts degree and the number of post-doctoral students enrolled. At Private Ph.D. highest institutions, the number of Doctor of Arts degrees awarded decreased by 21.3%. The Public Ph.D. highest institution also decreased but at a slower pace (6.1%). As a group, the number of Doctor of Arts degrees confirmed by Ph.D. institutions decreased by 7.9% (response rate 62%), while the number of post-doctoral students increased by 1.4% (response rate of 53%).

TABLE 9

Percent Change in Fellowships or Traineeships (Non-Service), by Discipline Area, 1976-77

| | Education | Humanities | Social Sciences | Physical Sciences | Engineering | Biological Sciences |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Private-Ph.D. | -18.7%<br>(62%) | +8.5%<br>(67%) | -2.1%<br>(68%) | +0.7%<br>(71%) | +1.9%<br>(64%) | -2.2%<br>(68%) |
| Public-Ph.D. | +0.5%<br>(69%) | -2.5%<br>(69%) | -2.2%<br>(72%) | -3.5%<br>(71%) | -1.7%<br>(66%) | -2.8%<br>(72%) |
| All Ph.D. | -4.1%<br>(67%) | +3.8%<br>(68%) | -2.2%<br>(70%) | -1.5%<br>(71%) | +0.2%<br>(65%) | -2.6%<br>(70%) |

TABLE 10

Percent Change in Master's Degrees Awarded, by Discipline Area, 1976-77

| | Education | Humanities | Social Sciences | Physical Sciences | Engineering | Biological Sciences |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public-Master's & Ph.D. | -0.9%<br>(81%) | -2.0%<br>(80%) | +6.6%<br>(82%) | +5.0%<br>(81%) | -1.5%<br>(75%) | +4.2%<br>(81%) |
| Private-Master's & Ph.D. | -11.8%<br>(74%) | -8.6%<br>(82%) | +6.4%<br>(83%) | -3.2%<br>(82%) | -4.2%<br>(73%) | +13.4%<br>(80%) |
| Total | -3.0%<br>(78%) | -3.9%<br>(81%) | +6.6%<br>(82%) | +2.8%<br>(82%) | -2.3%<br>(74%) | +5.8%<br>(81%) |

TABLE 11

Percent Change in Doctorate Degrees Awarded, by Discipline Area, 1976-77

| | Education | Humanities | Social Sciences | Physical Sciences | Engineering | Biological Sciences |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public Ph.D. | -1.5% (78%) | -2.5% (76%) | -8.9% (78%) | -6.5% (81%) | -3.3% (76%) | -0.9% (81%) |
| Private Ph.D. | +4.2% (67%) | -13.1% (76%) | -4.4% (76%) | -5.9% (80%) | -7.5% (73%) | -1.4% (78%) |
| All Ph.D. | -0.5% (74%) | -7.0% (76%) | -7.1% (77%) | -6.3% (81%) | -4.9% (75%) | -1.0% (80%) |

TABLE 12

Full-time and Part-time First-time Enrollment, 1976 and 1977

| | | | 1976 | | | | 1977 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number* | % | Full-time | % | Part-time | % | Full-time | % | Part-time | % |
| Master's Highest | 75 | 69 | 12,274 | 33 | 25,330 | 67 | 12,455 | 33 | 24,735 | 67 |
| Ph.D. Highest | 174 | 70 | 64,930 | 56 | 50,277 | 44 | 65,902 | 56 | 50,823 | 44 |
| Total | 249 | 70 | 77,204 | 51 | 75,607 | 49 | 78,357 | 51 | 75,558 | 49 |

* Number is institutions responding. Percentage figures are the number responding as a percent of the number available in the total group. For example, 75 Master's Highest Degree institutions responded out of a possible 109 such institutions in the CGS membership for a 69% response rate for that group of institutions.

## Conclusions

Part II of the seventh CGS-GRE Board Survey of Graduate School Enrollment met with success in terms of the number of responding institutions and, to a lesser degree, in terms of response rates to individual questions. And, while the effective response rate to individual questions varied, several overall conclusions can nonetheless be drawn.

First, the overall enrollment increases noted in Part I last December are apparently occurring in all discipline areas when all institutions are looked at as a single group; only Education and Humanities are showing decreases across nearly all institutional types. Second, although the number of women enrolled in Ph.D. highest institutions continues to increase, women still enroll in smaller numbers than do men. Third, the decline of fellowship support noted in past surveys continues; there have been small increases in the number of teaching assistantships and in the number of research assistantships in all discipline areas. Fourth, although response rates on questions on the ethnic composition of graduate schools remain low, there is evidence that both the first-time and total enrollment of Chicano students increased between 1976 and 1977, while first-time and total enrollment of Black, Puerto Rican, and American Indian students decreased slightly between 1976 and 1977. Finally, the total number of master's degrees awarded shows a slight decrease in the areas of education, humanities, and engineering, while the number of Ph.D.'s awarded decreased in all areas.

It seems important that this information continue to be collected, and that those types of information for which meaningful results were achieved continue to be surveyed. It also seems apparent that, despite the occasionally small effective response rates, the efforts to provide for more complete and detailed information have had a positive effect and should be continued. Given these results, this survey will continue to serve as a valuable addition to the total pool of information about graduate education.

THE COUNCIL OF
GRADUATE SCHOOLS
IN THE UNITED STATES

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J. BOYD PAGE
*President*

Memorandum for: COUNCIL OF GRADUATE SCHOOLS
MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

cc: W. Dexter Whitehead
Chairman, GRE Board

Subject: Results of Council of Graduate School-Graduate Record Examinations Board 1977-78 Survey of Graduate Enrollment Part II

Date: June, 1978

From: J. Boyd Page

Overall graduate school enrollment increased in all major disciplines except Education and Humanities between the 1976-77 and 1977-78 academic years, according to the results of the most recent Council of Graduate Schools-Graduate Record Examinations Board "Survey of Graduate Enrollment." Based on usable responses from 309 of the 359 institutional members of the Council of Graduate Schools, the 15-page survey results provide information about changes in the pattern of graduate school enrollment, organized so as to allow comparisons between public and private institutions, between institutions offering the master's or Ph.D. as the highest degree, and among the six major discipline areas.

According to the survey, the number of doctorate degrees awarded decreased in all discipline areas. The proportion of first-time enrollment classified as part-time remained the same between the two years included in the survey, while the proportion of women increased slightly in both total enrollment and first-time enrollment.

Additional results detail a small decrease in non-service awards reported and increases in assistantships. Finally, the survey shows apparent increases in graduate enrollment for Chicano students and decreases in graduate enrollment for Black students.

A copy of the complete survey results is enclosed.

Enclosure